

Amendments to the Claims

a 1. (original) A collar protector for protecting the collar on a garment having a collar button comprising a body made of a resilient material; said body having a center section and spaced side sections each respectively connected at one end to the center section and disposed to extend in opposite directions from the center section; said center section having an attachment assembly formed therein for releasable attachment to the collar button; and each of the side sections having a resilient holding member disposed for operative association with the collar on a garment to hold the collar in position.

2. (original) The collar protector in claim 1, wherein the attachment assembly includes an inwardly extending cutaway section with a wide outer end and a restricted inner end.

3. (original) The collar protector in claim 1, wherein said body is constructed of polymer material.

4. (original) The collar protector in claim 1, wherein each resilient holding member comprises an elongated strip formed from its associated side section, said elongated strip connected at one end to its associated side section and having a free end remote from said connected end disposed to engage the outer face of the collar on the garment.

5. (original) The collar protector in claim 4, wherein the elongated strip of each resilient holding member has a convoluted shape.

6. (original) The collar protector in claim 5, wherein the convoluted shape is S-shaped.

7. (original) The collar protector in claim 1, wherein the side sections lie in a first plane and the holding members lie in a second plane spaced from the first plane.

8. (original) The collar protector in claim 1, wherein said body has an arcuate shape in the lengthwise direction of the collar protector.

9. (original) The collar protector in claim 1, wherein said body has an arcuate shape in the lengthwise direction of the collar protector and an arcuate shape transverse to the lengthwise direction of the collar protector.

10. (original) The collar protector in claim 1, wherein the body is constructed of plastic material having a three dimensional shape.

11. (original) The collar protector in claim 1, wherein the attachment assembly comprises a depression in the center section.

12. (original) The collar protector in claim 1, wherein the side sections lie in a first plane and the holding members have portions lying in planes extending above and below said first plane.

13. (original) The collar protector in claim 12, wherein said body is constructed of plastic material, said body having an arcuate shape and said holding members having an S-shape.

14. (original) A collar protector for protecting the collar on a garment having a collar button comprising a generally unitary body made of polymer material; said unitary body having a center section and spaced side sections each respectively connected at one end to the center section and disposed to extend in opposite directions from the center section; said center section having an attachment assembly formed therein for releasable attachment to the collar button; said attachment assembly comprising an inwardly extending cutaway section, said cutaway section having a predetermined length; and each of the side sections having a resilient holding

member disposed for operative association with the collar on a garment to hold the collar in position.

15. (original) The collar protector in claim 14, wherein each resilient holding member includes, an elongated strip formed from its associated side section, and each said elongated strip connected at one end near the center section to which its associated side section is connected, wherein the center section and the side sections lie in a first plane and the elongated strips lie in a second plane spaced from the first plane.

16. (original) A collar protector in claim 15, wherein the elongated strip of each resilient holding member has a convoluted shape.

17. (original) The collar protector in claim 15, wherein the attachment assembly includes a depression in the center section.

18. (original) The collar protector in claim 15, wherein the unitary body has a three dimensional shape.

19. (original) The collar protector in claim 15, wherein said body has an arcuate shape in the lengthwise direction of the collar protector.

20. (original) The collar protector in claim 13, wherein said body has an arcuate shape in the lengthwise direction of the collar protector and an arcuate shape transverse to the lengthwise direction of the collar protector.

21. (original) The collar protector in claim 14, wherein the side sections lie in a first plane and the holding members have portions lying in planes extending above and below said first plane.

22. (original) The collar protector in claim 21, wherein said body is constructed of plastic material, said body having an arcuate shape and said holding members having an S-shape.

23. (original) A garment having a collar provided with a collar button in combination with a collar protector, the combination comprising a body made of a resilient material; said body having a center section and spaced side sections each respectively connected at one end to the center section and disposed to extend in opposite directions from the center section; said center section having an attachment assembly formed therein for releasable attachment to the collar button; each of the side sections having a resilient holding member disposed for operative association with the collar on a garment to hold the collar in position; and a garment having a collar and a collar button to which the collar protector is attached.

24. (original) The combination in claim 23, wherein the attachment assembly includes an inwardly extending cutaway section with a wide outer end and a restricted inner end.

25. (original) The combination in claim 23, wherein said body is constructed of polymer material.

26. (original) The combination in claim 23, wherein each resilient holding member comprises an elongated strip formed from its associated side section said elongated strip connected at one end to its associated side section and having a free end remote from said connected end disposed to engage the outer face of the collar on the garment.

27. (original) The combination in claim 26, wherein the elongated strip of each resilient holding member has a convoluted shape.

28. (original) The combination in claim 27, wherein the convoluted shape is S-shaped.

~~29.~~ (original) The combination in claim 23, wherein the side sections lie in a first plane and the holding members lie in a second plane spaced from the first plane.

30. (original) The combination as in claim 23, wherein said body has an arcuate shape in the lengthwise direction of the collar protector.

31. (original) The combination in claim 23, wherein said body has an arcuate shape in the lengthwise direction of the collar protector and an arcuate shape transverse to the lengthwise direction of the collar protector.

32. (original) The combination in claim 23, wherein the body is constructed of plastic material having a three dimensional shape.

33. (original) The combination in claim 23, wherein the attachment assembly comprises a depression in the center section.

34. (original) The combination in claim 23, wherein the side sections lie in a first plane and the holding members have portions lying in planes extending above and below said first plane.

35 (original) The combination in claim 34, wherein said body is constructed of plastic material, said body having an arcuate shape and said holding members having an S-shape

36. (original) A three dimensional collar protector constructed from plastic material comprising a generally unitary body made of polymer material having an arcuate shape in lengthwise direction thereof, said body disposed in a first curved plane; said bodying having a center section and spaced side sections each respectively connected at one end to the center section and disposed to extend in opposite directions from the center section; and each of the side sections having a holding member disposed in a second curved plane spaced from said first curved plane, said holding members arranged for operative association with the collar on a garment to hold the collar is positioned.

~~37.~~ (original) The collar protector in claim 36, wherein each resilient holding member comprises an elongated strip formed from its associated side section; said elongated strip connected at one end to its associated side section and having a free end remote from said connected end disposed to engage the outer face of the collar on the garment.

~~38.~~ (original) The collar protector in claim 37, wherein the elongated strip of each resilient holding member has a convoluted shape.

~~39.~~ (original) The collar protector in claim 38, wherein the convoluted shape is S-shaped.

~~40.~~ (original) The collar protector in claim 36, wherein portions of said holding members lie above and below said first plane.

~~41.~~ (original) The collar protector in claim 40, wherein said holding members are S-shaped.

~~42.~~ (original) The combination of a collar protector and a garment having a collar, the combination comprising a collar protector as set forth in claim 36 attached to the collar of a garment.

43. (original) A three dimensional collar protector constructed from plastic material comprising a generally unitary body made of polymer material; said body having a center section and spaced side sections each respectively connected at one end to the center section and disposed to extend in opposite directions from the center section, said center section and a first portion of each of said side sections disposed in a first plane; and each of the side sections having a holding member, each of said holding members having a first portion disposed above said first plane, said holding members arranged for operative association with the collar on a garment to hold the collar is positioned.

44. (original) The collar protector in claim 43, wherein said first plane is curved in the longitudinal direction of said body.

45. (original) The collar protector in claim 43, wherein each of said holding members have a second portion disposed below said first plane.

a 46. (original) The collar protector in claim 45, wherein said holding members have an S-shape.

47. (original) The collar protector in claim 43, further including a tab extending away from said center section.

48. (original) The collar protector in claim 43, wherein said first plane is arcuate.

49. (original) The combination of a collar protector and a garment having a collar, the combination comprising a collar protector as set forth in claim 43 attached to the collar of a garment.

50. (new) A collar protector for a garment having a collar with an inner face, an outer face and a collar button, said collar protector comprising:

a² a. a generally unitary body made of a resilient material having a center section and at least two spaced side sections,

b. said spaced side sections each respectively connected at one end to the center section,

c. each of said spaced side sections having at least one first spaced arm extending in opposite directions from said center section, and in assembled position, disposed for engagement with the inner face of the collar, and at least one second spaced arm extending in opposite directions from said center section and in assembled position, disposed for engagement with the outer face of the collar to releasably hold the collar protector in assembled position.

51. (new) The collar protector as in claim 50 wherein said center section has an attachment for releasably connecting the collar protector to the collar button on the collar in assembled position.

52. (new) The collar protector as in claims 50 or 51 wherein the first spaced arm and the second spaced arm are disposed in side-by-side relationship.

53. (new) The collar protector as in claims 50 or 51 wherein the first spaced arm and the second spaced arm are curved.

54. (new) The collar protector as in claims 50 or 51 wherein the first spaced arm and the second spaced arm are in side-by-side relationship and are curved along the longitudinal line.

55. (new) A collar protector for a garment having a collar with an inner face, an outer face and a collar button, said collar protector comprising:

a. a generally unitary body made of a resilient material having a center section and at least two spaced side sections,

b. said spaced side sections each respectively connected at one end to the center section,

c. each of said spaced side sections having at least one first arm and at least one second arm in spaced relation to each other,

d. said at least one first spaced arm and said at least one second spaced arm respectively on each of said spaced side sections extending in opposite directions from the center section, and

e. said at least one first arm in assembled position, disposed for engagement with the inner face of the collar and said at least one second arm in assembled position, disposed for

engagement with the outer face of the collar to releasably hold the collar protector in assembled position.

56. (new) The collar protector as in claim 55 wherein said center section has an attachment for releasably connecting the collar protector to the collar button on the collar in assembled position.

57. (new) The combination with a garment having a collar with an inner face, an outer face and a collar button of a collar protector comprising:

a. a generally unitary body made of a resilient material having a center section and at least two spaced side sections,

b. said spaced side sections each respectively connected at one end to the center section,

c. said spaced side sections having at least one first spaced arm thereon extending in opposite directions from said center section and in assembled position disposed for engagement with the inner face of the collar, and

d. said spaced side sections having at least one second spaced arm thereon disposed for engagement with the outer face of the collar to releasably hold the collar protector in assembled position.

58. (new) The combination as in claim 57 wherein said center section on the collar protector has an attachment for releasably connecting the collar protector to the collar button on the collar in assembled position.

59. (new) The combination as in claims 57 or 58 wherein the first spaced arm and the second spaced arm are disposed in side-by-side relationship.

60. (new) The combination as in claims 57 or 58 wherein the first spaced arm and the second spaced arm are curved.

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62 61. (new) The combination as in claims 58 or 59 wherein the first spaced arm and the second spaced arm are in side-by-side relationship and are curved along the longitudinal line.
